

STERLING TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

Tuesday August 15, 2023

1. Pledge of Allegiance.

Town council, staff and community present stand and recite the pledge of allegiance.

2. Roll Call.

Yvonne Larson, excused; Justin Alder, present; Heather Myers, present; Tami Privett, present; Mayor Pearson, present.

Staff: Kristina Winkel.

Community: Loretta Denton, Ashley Denton, Nick Lyon, Rick Kiser.

Rick has been asked by the Manti Utah Stake to talk to the community about September being American Founders and Constitution month. President Olsen is asking if we have any events planned to celebrate and honor the constitution and has offered his assistance in any way needed. Rick asks if we have anything planned such as a concert, speech, writing contest for youth, constitution read along, Fun Run or if the youth are providing the American Flags to view.

Mayor states he is in charge of the Youth Prep Class and he meets once a month and this month for September they are focusing on the Constitution. They meet on the 4th Thursday of each month at 6:30.

Loretta asks how many families attend. Mayor states regularly 2-3 and sometimes up to 6-7 families. He explains this started as a spin off from the adult prep class and Shayne Burton is assisting with getting the word out.

Kris Winkel offers to start up the Newsletter again and spearhead a coloring contest and writing contest for Sept.

For any further assistance contact Rick Kiser (rickkiser@hotmail.com). He reiterates that every year the State Legislature wants each town and city to do something to celebrate Sept 17th Constitution Day.

3. Reading of minutes from the previous meeting.

4. Approval of Minutes from previous meeting.

Tami makes a motion to pass the minutes from July 18, 2023 as presented. Heather seconds the motion. All those in favor; Justin, aye; Heather, aye; Tami, aye. Motion passes.

5. Discussion and vote on moving the fire hydrant that is in Kyle Dentons Driveway.

Ashley Denton gives a history on the fire hydrant location and property line changes. After the property line moved and the hydrant was damaged due to the location, Ashley asked Curt Ludvigson to move it and he replied, "This fire hydrant will never move". Throughout the years, the fire hydrant has repeatedly been backed into, hit and damaged. Ashley asks for clarification as to who is responsible for paying for repairs when it has been hit and if it can be moved. The fire hydrant is on town property and is located at the edge of the Dentons driveway. Ashley shares that she has spoken to Chad Parry from Ephraim City and he states that it is his opinion that the town should pay for repairs and it should be moved.

Discussion on flushing fire hydrants. Nick explains that he did flush the fire hydrants 3 years ago, it's a good thing for the system and takes about 8 hours. It's generally not done by the fire department and should be overseen by the water master.

Discussion on fire hydrant location in relation to a utility pole (Manti Telephone & Rocky Mountain Power). If the utility pole is moved, Manti Telephone will bill someone. Nick states it is his opinion that the fire hydrant should be moved. Nick discusses how far a fire hydrant must be from a structure and how the location may affect nearby property owners property insurance.

Justin asks if the town and Dentons can come to an agreement with sharing the cost. Tami states that the town should pay for it. Ashley states that she will not pay and is prepared to file a suit. Tami states that a prior administration may have dropped the ball.

Mayor states that someone who speaks for the town can be personally liable for statements, threats, etc that don't reflect the town and its ordinances. He clarifies that it was not the town speaking when Curt told her the fire hydrant could never be moved. Ashley agrees.

Justin and Tami discuss the budget. Justin and Nick look at a map. Nick explains the Sterling Code for placement of fire hydrants. Council and Nick discuss possible locations to move the fire hydrant.

Mayor asks what it would cost to leave it where it is and repair it. Justin states around \$8,800. Mayor agrees that the town has allowed the Dentons driveway to be there and did not give instructions on barriers and feels the town should repair the fire hydrant and not hold the Denton's liable for repairs.

Further discussion on possible locations to move the fire hydrant. Nick states that the fire hydrant will be hit again and should be moved. Mayor agrees.

Further heated discussion on what the resolution should be and who should pay.

Mayor Pearson asks how Ashley would feel if we fixed the hydrant and put a barrier around it. Ashley states that the location is very difficult and a barrier may not help explaining that there are large vehicles and trackers that come and go in the driveway. Mayor states if we move the fire hydrant it would be appreciated if they could help with the cost.

Tami makes a motion that we move the fire hydrant in Kyle Denton's driveway to the proposed position across the street at the cost of the town. Heather seconds the motion. Justin, nay; Heather, nay; Tami aye, Mayor Pearson, aye. Motion fails.

Ashley gets Kyle on the phone on speaker and talks with Justin who asks if he will share the cost in moving the fire hydrant. Kyle declines stating that the hydrant is not his property and is not on his property. Kyle states that he wanted to help at one time to move it and was told no. Justin explains that the council represents the taxpayers money and has a responsibility to spend the taxpayers money wisely. Due to the history with the town in dealing with the fire hydrant, Kyle declines and states that they should not come after him, if the fire hydrant gets damaged again in the future.

Tami makes a motion that we move the fire hydrant in Kyle Dentons driveway to an approved location across the street. Heather seconds the motion. Justin, nay; Heather, aye; Tami, aye; Mayor Person, aye. Motion passes.

6. Discussion and vote on pay for Sterling Town Sexton.

Heather shares various pay in nearby towns. Manti \$21 hour, Gunnison \$77,532 which includes benefits, Centerfield \$30.12 an hour, Ephraim \$20 hour, Spring City \$17 an hour. Discussion on having Heather have access to Pylorus for record keeping.

Tami makes a motion that we pay the Sterling Town Sexton \$20 an hour. Justin seconds the motion. All those in favor; Justin, aye; Heather, aye; Tami, aye. Motion passes.

7. Discussion and vote on x-raying Sterling Town Cemetery.

Heather states she has talked with Yvonne and she agrees that we should have the scan done first and then the mapping. \$20,000-30,000 for a scan and mapping. This is not in the budget. Heather states that it is believed there are a lot of unknown graves on the map. Heather feels it is in the towns best interest to know what is where to prevent future liability.

Mayor asks what the cost is for just the scan. It's about \$7,000 (ground penetrating radar). Justin suggests purchasing one. Council agrees. Heather will look into costs in purchasing a ground penetrating radar.

Tami makes a motion that this be tabled until the next council meeting. Heather seconds the motion. All those in favor: Justin, aye; Heather, aye; Tami, aye. Motion passes.

8. Discussion and vote on Sterling Town Cemetery plot costs.

Council reviews current prices. Heather shares our current prices. Council compares prices in other towns. Heather states we should increase it to \$400 for residents including the buffer zone. \$2000 for non residents.

Tami makes a motion to table this discussion until the next council meeting. Heather seconds the motion. All those in favor: Justin, aye, Heather, aye, Tami, aye. Motion passes.

9. Discussion and vote on Sterling Town Sexton fees.

Mayor appoints Heather Myers as Town Sexton. Tami makes a motion to appoint Heather Myers for Sterling Town Sexton. Justin seconds the motion. All those in favor: Justin, aye; Heather, aye; Tami, aye. Motion passes.

10. Report of Officers:

JUSTIN-WATER-ROADS—Justin discusses a leak and gives an update on repairs.

Justin would like on the agenda to discuss a scheduled increase in water bill.

YVONNE-TREASURY/BUILDING—Excused absence.

HEATHER-CEMETERY/PARKS/FIRE—Nick (Fire Chief) states Tuesdays are hard for him to get here. He did go to the CIB and we were approved after a vigorous debate. Sterling will receive one new engine. CIB funded the fire district 6.5 million, It has been a relatively quiet season. We may end up getting a truck on the Beaver fire at the end of this month. He reiterates the importance of fire hydrant maintenance. He is not comfortable to flow that amount of water through the system without the Water Master present (due to PRV damage) and recommends once a year in the Spring when it starts to warm up.

Heather is ready to get access to Pellorus to track cemetery certificates. Mayor will get her an account set up with Pylorus.

TAMI-STEERING COMMITTEE/BUDGET/DEPUTY CLERK—Tami makes the council aware that Jims hours have been over 30 hours a week. We are at risk when he goes over 12 weeks in a row with 27 or more hours a week. Council agrees. Tami asks about the residents that promised to move their shipping containers and states that the deadline has passed.

MAYOR PEARSON-PLANNING & ZONING— States that Jim tweaked his back lifting and he is using the Mayor's utility trailer. Yvonne is looking into finding one. Tami

reminds the Mayor that Jim will need to fill out some paperwork for his injury.

Mayor asks if it's okay if we get Kris a credit card to purchase office supplies. Council Agrees.

Mayor states that we need to make sure the square reader Yvonne purchased has the fees go to the town and not to Yvonne. She will need to transfer that to the town.

We got the water master grant. The next step is that we will need to raise our impact fees. Mayor will pursue getting two quotes on the impact fees.

Our deadline with Jones & DeMille is coming up on Oct 21, 2023. They will not extend beyond that. What Jones & DeMille have been doing is also something that Six Counties can assist us with. Mayor offered to forward the contract with Jones & DeMille to anyone that would like to read it. We do still have some hours with Jones & DeMille if there is anything you have a question about.

11. Approval and Payment of Bills:

Bills Paid on 8/15/2023

Badger Meter	\$76.54	Meter cell service for July
Blue Stakes of Utah	\$86.00	Annual membership
CUPHD	\$20.00	Water sample for July
Dominion Energy	\$158.36	Utilities Fire House and Town
EcoLife	\$175.00	Insect control Fire House
Jim Egner	\$45.00	July mileage reimbursement
Lisa Gubler	\$273.68	24th July Reimbursement: copies, ice, gas, drinks etc.
Gunnison City Corp	\$20.00	Cornhole Rental 24th July
Gunnison Implement Co	\$23.08	Tube;parks supply
IFA	\$50.97	Shavings
Jensen Excavating	\$2546.00	Exhuming Hooser grave, 1st and 2nd water leak
Scott Johnson	\$76.25	July Mileage reimbursement

Stephen Kent	\$89.69	24th July Celebration
Yvonne Larsen	\$401.88	24th July Copies, activity supplies, terminal square
Manti Telephone	\$102.99	Monthly phone bill
Pelorus Methods	\$800.00	Software support
Tami Privett	\$5.01	Payroll tax postage
Rasmussen Ace	\$44.99	Coolr Plythlyn Gn 52QT
Rural Water Association	\$755.00	Water Master Class, Jim Egner
Sanpete County Clerk	\$261.50	Bookmobile Funding 1st half 2023
Sanpete County Fire District #2	\$750.50	Fire District Fee
Sanpete Sanitary Landfill Coop	\$568.80	Landfill fee expense, July
Southwest Plumbing Supply	\$23.44	Brass nipple
Sterling Country Store	\$197.80	Fuel parks and fire
Valley Builders Inc	\$275.37	V-Jaw plier, pruner, ratchet
Kris Winkel	\$81.27	3-ring binders, page savers, folders, card stock for 2023-2024
Zions Bank Visa	\$875.55	Fire monthly subscription, 24th celebration
Rocky Mountain	\$919.24	Power FireHouse Adm Build

Payroll Paid on 8/7/2023

James C Egner	\$2,197.40
Scott Johnson	\$434.04
Heather H Myers	\$72.73

Tamra D Privett	\$93.50
Kristina K Winkel	\$232.03

Tami makes a motion to pay bills as presented. Heather seconds the motion. All those in favor: Justin, aye; Heather, aye; Tami, aye. Motion passes.

12. Meeting Adjournment.

Heather makes a motion to adjourn the meeting. Tami seconds the motion. All those in favor: Justin, aye; Heather, aye, Tami, aye. Motion passes. , heather second

Meeting adjourned at 10:15